THE YELLOW DRAGON.

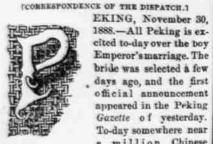
China's Boy Emperor and His Approaching Marriage.

HOW THE FAIR BRIDE WAS CHOSEN

Bundreds of Manchu Maidens at the Palace for Selection.

THE WEDDING TO COST \$10,000,000





a million Chinese tongues are wagging inside of orange-colored cheeks about the new Empress, and the highly rouged daughters of the Manchu nobility are wondering what kind of a looking girl she is, and are envying both her and the two sisters who have been chosen to rank as the highest of the imperial concu-

The announcement of the Peking Gazette is official. It comes from the innermost recesses of the forbidden city, and it was dietated by the Empress dowager herself. I quote it in the translation which the Chinese writer of our American Minister has prepared for the State Department at Washington. It requires only one page of the Peking Gazette to print it, and this means a space not longer nor wider than the back of a long official envelope. It reads: "Special edict of the Empress dowager."

"The Emperor having reverently suc-ceeded to his exalted inheritance and increasing day by day in maturity, it is becoming that he should select a virtuous consort to assist in the auministration of the palace, to control the members of his house-hold and to encourage the Emperor himself in upright conduct. Let, therefore, Tet-Ho-Na-La a daughter of Deputy Lieutenant General Kuei Hsiang, whom we have se-lected for her dignified and virtuous char-'Further edict.

"Let Ta-Ta-La, aged 15 years, a daughter of Chang Hsii, formerly vice president of a board, become the secondary consort of the first rank, and let Ta-Ta-La, aged 13, also daughter of Chang Hsii, formerly vice president of a board, become imperial concubine of the second rank."

"Respect this."

Pretty Little Maidens.

Thus is settled a question which has been agitating the Chinese court for the past year, and which has cost the families of the Manchu nobles months of trouble, hundreds of thousands of cash and an incalculable amount of bitter disappointment. China has been ruled for more than two centuries by Manchurians. Peking has its Chinese city and its tarter city and the Emperor is a full-blooded Manchu. It is prescribed by the laws of the court that he shall wed no one but a Manchu maiden, and during the past year the distinguished Manchu papas, having daughters between the ages of 12 and 16, have been required to send them to Peking in order that they might be inspected by the Empress dowager with a yiew to the selection of such as seemed good for the Imperial harem. The first inspec-tion was held last spring. The maidens came by hundreds from Peking and from other northern parts of the empire. They were conveyed in carts from their homes to the palace and their delicate frames were joited like jelly through the ruts of the sickness of the Empress she could for a long

bar a foot long at the back of her head, so Her face, originally of a delicate cream, verging upon the bloom of the large yellow peach, was overlaid with rouge and paste, and her eyes, coal black, were heightened in color by artificial means. The Manchu girls are the most beautiful in China, and an unadorned maiden with her soulful eves looking out of their narrow, almond-shape slits is enough to stir the blood of the coldest She is plum and luscious, and she has not the disgusting compression of foot which is always associated with her Chinese sister. There are no pipestem legs and mutilated feet about the palace of the Emperor of China, and the Empress will probably wear a number two shoe.

Candidates for Matrimony.

These hundreds of mandarin's daughters were Manchus and they were the prettiest Manchus in China. Their carts were led through wall after wall through the great city of Peking and they arrived at the palace at 2 o'clock in the morning. Much of the work of the Chinese court is done in the night, and it was dark when they were carried across the little lake inside the palace grounds and they are their breakfast at 3 A. M., when the rest of Peking was still alegoing. After this they were given a lit-tle time for primping and powdering, and they were then ushered into the presence of the Empress Dowager in groups of four and five. Each girl carried a tablet bearing her name and age and these were handed to the Empress, who put questions to the young ladies and passed upon their beauty.

The only men present were the court enuchs, of whom I shall speak further on, and the unsuccessful candidates were passed over to these with orders that each should he given a piece of silver in the shape of shoe, which weighed exactly one ounce, and be sent away. The great majority of the maidens were discarded at the first inspection. The remainder were asked to com-At the second inspection a closer examination was made, and there was a further weeding out of the least beautiful of the maidens. At this time the unsuccess ful candidates were each given a roll of silk, and at the third inspection, which took place in the latter part of last month, the hundreds had been reduced to 15, and it was from these 15 that the above 3 were finally

A Royal Wedding.

The marriage is to take place on the same day that President Harrison is to be inaugurated, and the preparations for it have been going on for months. The Board of Rites and Ceremonies have decided that it shall be as economical as possible, but they agree that it must cost at least 8,000,000 taels, which is considerably over \$10,000,000. The royal factories are already at work making silks, satins and other things for it, and collections are being made in the various provinces. This wedding is, with one exception, the only marriage of an Emperor in this way since 1674. The last Emperor, Tung Chi, was married in 1872. He was like the present Emperor, a boy when he ascended the throne, and his Empress was chosen in the same way. Three days before the wedding he sent the bride her phænix robes, and ordered the priests to burn inabout to marry Aleuteh, the good, wise and virtuous daughter of Cheng." Presents poured in from every part of the capital, and on the day before the marriage a tablet of gold was sent to the bride, upon which was engraved the edict elevating her to the throne. The bride is here known as the placent, and the Emerican every sent the contract of the capital and the Emerican every sent the contract of the capital capi phoenix and the Emperor is known as the ragon, and the union is that of the phoenix

palace. A Manchu Prince was at its head and 30 white horses followed behind. The Dowager Empress received the bride. She

stepped from her sedan chair on to a golden saddle and from that into her home. It will be the same with the marriage of this Em-peror, and the Empress will rule the ladies of the imperial household. The number of females in the royal harem is not accurately females in the royal harem is not accurately known. The Emperor has the right to seven legal concubines and to an unlimited number of illegal ones. Every third year after March next he will review the daughters of the high rank Manchu officers over 12 years of age, and will choose such as he pleases for the palace. Such of his secondary wives as bear children to him will continue to remain in the palace. The others may be restored to liberty when they others may be restored to liberty when they reach the age of 25 years. Manchu girls consider it a great favor to be taken into the palace, and their families regard it an honor. They have no trouble in finding husbands if they are permitted to come out again, but while in the palace they associate with none but the King and his cunuchs.

The eunuchs of the palace are the most in fluential men of the court. They have been the servants of the Chinese Emperor as far back as the time of Christ, and they are mentioned in Chinese history as existing 1000 B. C. There are 3,000 eunuchs in the 1000 B. C. There are 3,000 eunuchs in the imperial palace at Peking according to a late report on the subject to the State Department, and this report states that no person not of royal blood has the right to possess or employ eunuchs. It states that princes and princesses of royal blood, sons and daughters of the Emperor, may use 30 enuchs, but that nephews and younger sons are restricted to 20. Every fifth year each of certain princes of China is required to furnish for the use of the palace eight young eunuchs, and these princes are paid about \$300 apiece for them. The 18 lams priests, who supply the spirit-ual wants of the ladies of the imperial household, are eunuchs, and two or three thousand men of this class in the palace are divided into 48 departments. They have each their duties, and those of ordinary rank receive from \$2 to \$12 a month. They make more, of course, by their percentage on the sales made to the palace, and some of them, through official favor, grow quite wealthy.

This is especially so as to the favorites of the Empress dowager and the leading la-dies. One of the cunuchs of the court grew his despair he hung himself. This was about three weeks ago.

ia Remarkable Woman.

The Empress Dowager who, notwithstanding the boy Emperor has ascended the throne, strill remains Empress Regent, is one of the most remarkable women in Chinese history. She has ruled China for 25 years, and she became Empress Regent in onnection with the Eastern Empress in 1861, when the Emperor Hien Feng died, leaving two wives. The Eastern Empress died six years ago, and there was at this time a great excitement in Peking because this noted lady, who was the real ruler of China, was sick. The most noted doctors of China were called to court. Their medi-cines availed nothing, and they visited Doctor Dudgeon, an eminent Scottish practitioner of Peking, and asked him for some medicine and advice. Doctor Dudgeon replied that if the Empress wanted his services she could call him in, but that he did not intend to risk advice and medicine at second-hand. The result was that the

The present Empress regent is now over Each girl was dressed in all the extravagance of Chinese costume. Her hair, rich,
black and lustrous, was combed out over a

in present Empress regent is now over

50, and she is said to be well formed and
dignified. She combs her hair, I am told,
in this butterfly fashion common to the
Another is an order of dress materials for in this butterfly fashion common to the Manchus, having horns six inches long at hat it stood out for six inches on each side. Her face, originally of a delicate cream, a gold hairpin. She is rather independent in thought and does as she pleases, regard-less of Chinese etiquette. She is said to practice archery inside the walls of the palace, and she is reported as having taken lessons in boxing from an old ennuch. Minister Denby tells me that she studies and understands all subjects committed to her, and that she is very industrious. He thinks she will go down to history as one of the great rulers of the world, and says that through her. China has attained its present

Rather Reserved. From this, however, it must not be

thought that Minister Denby has ever seen the Empress Regent. Not even the Chinese see her, and she receives the most noble of the court behind a gauze screen. Every Chinaman who appears before this screen has to get down on his knees and bump his head against the floor, no matter if he be Li Hung Chang or one of the princes, and it is impossible for an American to conceive the sacredness and the awful divinity which hedges the body of the Emperor and this Empress. The palaces themselves are sur-rounded by a yellow tiled wall, more than two miles in extent and many feet high, and around this there is a wide most. The interior is called the carnation prohibited At the gates of the wall are officers in uniform, and no foreigner ever steps with-in it. The ordinary Chinaman never gets inside, and the masses of the Empire sup-pose that the palaces within are upheld by gold and silver pillars. They think they are walled by precious jewels and that their majesties walk on pavements of gold. Out-side of this city is the imperial city, which has a wall 50 feet high, and which is so wide at the top that four good sized carriages could be driven abreast upon it. It is from this wall that the stranger can get his only view of the palaces of the Chinese Empire. They are a wilderness of high broad build-ings covered with curved roofs of bright yellow tiles, which glisten like gold under the bright sun of Northern China. They look more like temples than palaces, and they are many of them centuries old.

Yellow is the imperial color of China, and his Majesty's foot is too holy to step upon earth of any other hue. When he goes outside of the palace walls the streets through which his procession is to pass are covered with yellow clay, and I saw a hundred half-naked Chinese coolies pushing this in from the country in wheelbarrows through the frosty wintry air as I started for the Chinese wall. The Empress Dowager was to have an outing on the following day, and these miles of dirty streets were being prepared for her. Here and there shops which had been erected were being torn down, and the wide streets of the tartar city, which are usually filled with booths like those of a great fair, were with booths like those of a great fair, were being cleaned for the royal procession. Matting was being hung up before the houses, and navy blue cotton was stretched across the side streets. No human eye outside the court must ever rest upon the Em-peror or Empress, and when they go forth all are warned to remain in doors, and the foreigners receive notice through their Ministers that they must not appear on certain streets at such times, nor can they go out while the imperial procession is passing.

The procession has archers with it, and there are few shots so good as these Chinese bowmen. A peeping Tom is liable to get an arrow in his eye, and the Chinese get down upon their knees and kotow behind the mate.

Seeing the Elephants. There are certain gates of the city which

are never used except for the Emperor and n addressing the throne even the highest addressing a god. I have before me a memorial of Li Hung Chang, in which he states that "upon bended knees as a slave" now. officials and nobles act as though they were

he looks upward toward his sacred master and prostrate begs to say."

The Emperor of China is the god of the people: He offers sacrifices for the nation, and he is more to them than the Pope ever was to Rome. From the Peking Gazette I take notice of a number of sacrifices which he has lately made, and I see that he usually starts out to the temple of heaven at 4:30 in the morning, and I am told that he is hauled there by one of the sacred elephants. visited the elephant stables yesterday, and by liberal bribing of the dirty, long-cued official in charge, succeeded in seeing these royal animals. They are as big as was Jumbo, and they have been taught to bend their knees and bow when in presence of the Emperor. I noted that they appreciated that I was an American prince, for they appreciated that I was an Emperor to the motion crooked their legs in response to the motion of the groom when I came into their presence and bowed to me even as to the sallow-faced, almond-eyed mortal, who poses as the god and ruler of 400,000,000 of people.

The Emperor prays for snow and he sends up sayiffeet for raise. On the 6th of Merch

The Emperor prays for snow and he sends up sacrifices for rain. On the 6th of March I see that he trotted out at 4:45 A. M. and visited the temple of the god of war, and on the 15th of last April he started the plowing for the Empire by going to the temple of agriculture and holding a gold-handled plow with his long finger-nailed hand. He looks over the prayers that are to be offered upon great occasions and he is considered and called by the Chinese "the son of heaven." The royal slaughterhouse is con-nected with the temple of heaven, and His Majesty sacrifices during the wee small hours of the morning, both here and at other places, every day or so.

A Little Autocrat.

This boy Emperor of China is now 17 years old. He is a slender, yellow-faced, almondeyed, black-cued, young tartar who, I am told, has all the instincts of the ordinary boy and who likes fun as well as any boy among his subjects. A few days ago he went out to visit some small steam launches, and to the horror of his eunuchs, rushed past them and down into the engine-room. He here found a cooley with a dirty handkerchief tied around his head oiling the machinery. He asked him his nationality and the cooley replied that he was a Chinaman. A reply which was very pleasing to the Emperor. It is said that his majesty is not a very good student and that he has a rather petulent disposition. He is variable in his tastes, and dies. One of the counchs of the court grew angry a week or so ago because a wealthy Chinaman, who lived not far from the palace walls, had sent up a skyrocket, the shaft of which happened to fall in his yard. He concluded to be revenged, and taking the empress to the top of her palace, he showed her this man's residence and told her that she ought to have it for a certain purpose. He recaused her that he was the march of Aristic advillation of the Empreor. It is said that his majesty is not a very good student and that he has a rather petulent disposition. He is variable in his tastes, and it may be on this account that the Empress regent still holds the position of Royal advisor. He will have, however, unlimited power in a short time, and it depends upon him whether China shall follow Japan in the majesty is not a very good student and that he has a rather petulent disposition. He is variable in his tastes, and it may be on this account that the Empress regent still holds the position of Royal advisor. He will have, however, unlimited power in a short time, and it depends upon him whether China shall follow Japan in power in a short time, and it depends upon him whether China shall follow Japan in the march of Asiatic civilization or not. her that she ought to have it for a certain purpose. He persuaded her that he was right; and as the Emperor and Empress are supposed to own all China, a notice was sent to this Chinaman that he must raise nese, and considering the isolation of China sharing the march of Asiatic civilization or not. immediately an enormous sum of money or his palace would be confiscated by the Empress. He could not raise the money. He 6,000 electric lights, and that the Emperor his palace would be confiscated by the Lin-his palace would not raise the money. He did not want to give up his palace and in will cat his breakfast with ivory chopsticks tipped with gold under the rays of electric-

His Majesty rises about 2 o'clock in the morning, as I am told through his tutor. He takes a light breakfast at about 2:30, and by 3 is ready for work. He receives his Ministers at 4, 5 or 6 o'clock, and it is at this time that he usually starts out to per-form his holy duties. He has his second breakfast at 11, and he dines later in the day, going to bed very early. His favorite dishes are unknown to his subjects, but the Chinese books state that there shall be daily placed before him 30 pounds of meat in a basin, and seven pounds boiled into a soup. He has the daily allowance of more than a pound of hog's fat and butter, and he has also two sheep, two fowls and two ducks, the milk of 80 cows and 75 parcels of tea. The Empress receives the milk of 25 cows, 10 parcels of tea, 20 pounds of meat in platters and 13 pounds; boiled with vegetables. She has one fowl and one duck, and it would seem that the royal family ought to have enough out of this and to spare. The Emperor now takes his meals alone, and his eunuchs watch him closely and restrain him if he eats too much of one thing.

Somewhat Gorgeons.

palace, and the supplies which are sent to Another is an order of dress materials for the Emperor, and in it are the items of ten pieces each of bright yellow, brown, saphire blue, rice colored, tea colored, shrimp black and silver gray gauze. There are 90 pieces of gauze in all, and the silks cost thousands of dollars. During one year 3,400 rolls of silk gauze, 600 handkerchiefs, 375 rolls of satin, 500 rolls of brocaded satin and 3,000 pieces of fine calico were furnished to him from one of his factories, and it is an open secret at Peking that some of these fine silks and embroideries find their way out of the palace into the hands of such common people

as are able to pay well for them. The Emperor is not averse to receiving presents from his own subjects, and during my stay in Tientsin eight gorgeous railroad cars arrived from France. They were upors, and the one for the especial use of the Emperor had a downy divin of imperial yel-low. The rest of its finish was red, satin and plush, but the curtains, strange to say, were of white silk, an unpardonable mis-take on the part of the donors, for white is, in China, the badge of death and of mourn ing. These cars are the present of a French syndicate doing business in China, who hope through them to get the Emperor's favor, and if railroads are adopted, to have the first chance at the contract. are to run on a little track in the imperial palace grounds, and they will be one of the toys of His Majesty. The Emperor, how-ever, refused to receive them for nothing, and he takes them only on condition that the French syndicate will accept \$10,000 for them. The cars cost well up toward \$100,-000, and the syndicate promises to have its work for its pains.
FRANK G. CARPENTER.

THE MONKEY GAVE THE ALARM.

farrow Escape of Nineteen Persons From s Burning Ship in the Tropics.

New York Sun.? A pet monkey belonging to Mrs. James Lewis, wife of Captain Lewis of the clipper ship Stephen D. Horton, possibly saved the lives of 19 persons on December 17. Sailing along on a smooth sea in the tropics, 420 miles east of Pernambuco, and bound from Calcutts to New York, the ship seemed perfectly sec ure at 11:45 A. M., when the attention of Mrs. Lewis was called to the monkey. With his keen little nose stuck into the pump well, he sniffed and jumped about in great excitement till the Captain went there and found an odor of smoke. The bales of jute in the hold were sm oke. The bales of jute in the hold were on fire. All hands were called, the after-hatch broken open and water played on the burning cargo. For two hours they fought the smoldering fire, and then, as no flames had appeared, battened down the hatches, and crowded on sail for Pernamburge.

At 3:30 P. M., there was an explosion, caused, the Captain thought, by the fire having reached a part of the 100 tons of saltpeter stowed among the 900 tons of jute. In a few minutes the vessel was enveloped in flames. Mrs. Lewis was dragged from the cabin by her husband and both suc-ceeded in climbing into one of the two boats that were hastily lowered. Eight men jumped overboard and one of these, John Davis, was drowned. Another man, Henry Younger, went back for some clothes and was suffocated. For three days and nights. after the ship burnt up, the Captain, his wife, and nine men in one boat, and ten men in the other, lived on hard tack and a gill of water apiece under the fierce rays of

a tropical sun.

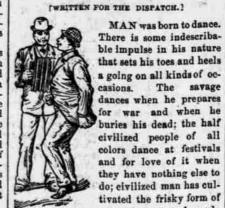
They were picked up on December 30 by the bark Twilight, bound from Cardiff to Valparaiso. The Captain took them to within 12 miles of Pernambuco, and then sent them ashore in their own boats. The sailors went to England by steamer, and Captain Lewis and his wife, who told this

With All Classes of the Human greatest painter or the greatest composer of music. He believes in it, loves it and devotes his time to it with all the care and as-

HOW THE FEET CAN AMUSE. The Fascinating Clog and Pleasing Jig

Discussed by a Professor. HOW SOCIETY PATRONIZES STAGE STEPS

WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.



for war and when he buries his dead; the half civilized people of all colors dance at festivals and for love of it when they have nothing else to do; civilized man has culentertainment and made

MAN was born to dance.

Moving Melody, an art of it. There is something strangely fascinating in the skipping of a man's toes. What feature of a variety entertainment is watched with keener interest and more absorbed attention than the performance of a clog or a shuffle. People may converse while the best of music is being played. Their eyes may wander during a scene in the play, and the climax of a tragedy rarely passes without the accompaniment of rustling skirts or fans or the restless movements of people in their seats: but when a dancer appears the theater is invariably silent as the grave, excepting when the enthusiasm of the audience can be no longer restrained and bursts forth in a volley of applause. THE DANCE FASCINATING

This is the case not only when gailcostumed women are back of the footlights



Dancing for Anti-Fat.

but even more so when the performer is nothing more attractive than an undersized man with a snub nose and a very ordinary suit of clothes. The fact is, it is not the dancer, the clothes, nor the situation that interests the people, their attention is riv-eted upon the rythmical moving feet. How often it happens that a crowd of excursion-ists, weary with looking across the water, and weary with a half day of unaccusto idleness, go upon the lower deck where the only scenery to be enjoyed is that of a few rough chairs and the walls of the boat, and induce one of their number to execute a Somewhat Gorgeons.

It costs a great amount to keep up his on harmonica or a jewsharp or an accordion, or sometimes they are in such great luck as to have a strolling musician with a violin or a man can play it so as to bring out the rythm of a single dance movement. The music passes unheeded, but the crowd of men surround the dancer and press him close, giving him just room enough to tap the floor with his feet, and watch him with intense interest until he stops from exhaustion, whereupon he is compelled to begin his

exhibition again.
To those rare individuals who care nothing about dancing, this form of entertainment appears to be marvelously strange and unreasonable, and yet perhaps the most innocent of all. For there are some men who cannot execute a single step of the simplest kind, and would not take a free lesson if they had the opportunity to do so. But it is safe to say that there is not a single man in the world who, when a moment of hopefulness or exhibitantion come to him does not kick up his heels in some awkward fashion to give vent to his joy. He may not know it, but that is the dance. In that crude action he betrays his possession of the universal love for the dance, and if his movements were brought down to con-formity with each other and with musical rythm, he would be a dancer instead of wild kicker.

A SURPRISING FACT. The facility with which men who are not



The Negro Jig. dance is really a very surprising thing. The truck driver, whose schooling has barely enabled him to read his newspaper with some degree of ease and pleasure, and whose thought is limited to his hard environment, and who seldom sees anything beyond the rough world in which he works, becomes rough world in which he works, becomes
the acutest observer when a dance is in
progress and, without taking any lessons,
he will learn to execute a complicated clog
perfectly. With respect to the motions of
the feet the most rudely developed man is
competent to take accurate observations.
When one has reflected upon this universal
love for the dance he no longer marvels at
the frequency of clogs and shuffles and
other forms of foot movements that appear
upon the programmes of theatrical enterupon the programmes of theatrical enter

It is a form of amusement that pays well those who furnish it in best style. Men especially talented with respect to their feet and their sense of rythm have made a study of the individual forms of dancing, that is, those in which partners are not essential and in which the entertainment comes and in which the entertainment comes solely from the movement of the feet, and not in any degree from the association of men and women. They have learned not only the science of dancing, but how to teach it, and they find many pupils not only in professional life but in society generally.

ABOUT CLOG DANCING.

The writer made inquiries of several theatrical people as to whom he could apply to for authoritative information with respect to dances, and everyone of them referred him to a New York "protessor" whose es-

tablishment is on the Bowery. The Pro-fessor is a medium sized man with a tremendously heavy mustache. He is as much of an enthusiast in his art as the

siduity of a savant. He said:

siduity of a savent. He said:

"The clog originated in England and Scotland among the working people. They wear heavy shoes, and the dance naturally came to have a character fitted for heavy shoes. So today if a clog is to be danced it should be done with footwear entirely different from that which is suitable for the society ballroom. The shuffle, on the other hand, originated among the darkies who wear long, thin, ill-fitting shoes, and the difference between the clog and the shuffle is largely a difference in shoes and entirely due to that fact.

"There are 2l different steps in the complete clog, and it is danced to four-quarter time. To dance the clog one must have a thorough appreciation of time, a good carriage of the body and the ability to execute quickly. The first requisite will naturally be found in all people who apply to learn, because one who naturally has no sense of time will naturally have no fondness for the dance. The carriage of the body, however, has generally to be learned with great patience, and it is really the hardest part of the teaching.

"Almost every beginner wants to bend over until he is nearly double in order that he may see his own feet. The correct carriage of



Practicing for High Kicks.

course is an erect position of she body with the eyes directed slightly upward, at any rate not down. Another involuntary movement of the beginner which has to be trained out of him is the holding of arms far from the sides. The beginner seems to feel that he is in danger of losing his balance, and therefore crooks his arms and extends his hand ontward as if he were about to try to fly. As you will know from thinking of how the best dancers look when at their work, their arms are close to the side and moving only with the natural vibrations of the body. The general aim is to have all the action performed by the legs with the rest of the body as still as possible.

"The clog with 21 different steps is performed upon the stage. There is, however, a simpler clog which involves only 14 steps, and that is learned frequently by persons who do not go into professional life."

HIGH-FONED SCHOLARS.

HIGH-TONED SCHOLARS.

"What kind of people apply for instruction outside of actors and actresses?"

"Oh, they are frequently people in high society. Three or four years ago it was quite a fad to dance the clog and the jig and the shuffle, and I had many pupils who came to learn solely that they might do their part in private entertainments. That fad has somewhat died out, but it is sure to revive some day again. There are many people outside of professional life who learn to dance a clog because of its fascination for them as they see it performed upon the stage. I have also several pupils who take lessons and practice assiduously for the sole purpose of reducing their flesh, and many a heavy man of 50 years has taken his first lessoms in dancing from me in order to grow lighter."

"What relation has a jig to a clog?"

"The jig is danced in six-eighths time and is generally used by professional people as an encore. The jig is a species of shuffle, and in order to dance it the floor must be sanded. There are two kinds of jigs, the Irish and the negro. The Irish jig is in six-eighths and the negro. The Irish jig is in six-eighths and the negro. The Irish jig is in six-eighths and the negro. The Irish jig is in six-eighths and the negro in two-quarter time. The former is danced to the hornpipe and the latter to music on the banjo. The striking feature, to speak literally, of the clog is the tapping of the floor, and the performer's ambition consists in a desire to make as many taps as possible within each bar of music. There should never be less than four, and there may be as many as 22. The taps are made by the ball of the foot, the toe and the heel, in that



order. Another difference between the jig and the clog is in the development of the music re-quired for each. The straight jig has simply the eight-bar period, which is repeated over and over again, while the clog has a double period of 16 bars."

MUST HAVE SUPPLE LIMBS. "How do you classify such gretesque dances is are performed by Francis Wilson and other "Francis Wilson, who is he?" I never heard

"But do you not teach more professional people than others?" "Oh, yes; some of the most noted actors and actresses now before the public, not only in variety shows but in the highest class of dramas, have learned stage dances from me. I have been teaching for more than 30 years, but I never go to the theater. I have no notion of who Mr. Wilson is or what he dances or any-

who Mr. Wilson is or what he dances or any-thing about him. If you refer to dances where men throw their heels up above their heads and exercise their arms in giving taps to the soles of their shoes and all that sort of thing, I can only say that those dances, while they are very interesting, are not susceptible of teach-ing. A man must have unusually supple limbs to perform them and a great deal of quick invention. limbs to perform them and a great deal of quick invention.

"When I was in the habit of going to the theater. I remember having seen such dances and I know that they are invarisbly the invention of the performer. He must begin with the clog, jig and shuffle in order to gain the control of his limbs. That is the ground work. After that he may invent according to his capacity and pleasure. I never attempt to teach anything of that kind, not even the frequently seen cobbler's dance, which is the movement wherein a man almost sits upon the floor, one leg being crooked under him and the other straight out in front or on one side and in which the legs exchange this relative position rapidly while the performer's body remains in its initial position. It is a very comical dance and difficult to perform but not difficult to learn, and it would be undignified for a teacher to attempt to instruct anybody in it."

Why a Boiled Lobster is Red.

New York Graphic.] In all crustaceans, as, indeed, in almost verything in nature, there Is a certain per cent of iron. Upon boiling the lobster the iron is oxidized. This effect is largely due also to the percentage of muriatic acid which exists naturally in the shell. The chemical change which takes place here is almost similar to that which occurs in the almost similar to that which occurs in the almost similar to that which occurs in the burning of a brick. In boiling a lobster its coat ceases to be a living substance and to a certain extent it takes a new character. It is as a brick would be after burning. This is as a brick would be after burning. is as a brick would be after burning. This effect can also be produced by the sun, but necessarily not so rapidly, as the heat of that luminiary, although more intense, is not concentrated sufficiently to produce the result. The eun also exercises a bleaching influence, which consumes the oxide almost as fast as it is formed, leaving the shell white, or nearly pure lime.

The Right Man Lost

New York Sun. "How much did you lose at the race erday?" asked Bjones.

"Nothing," replied De Jinks.
"Didn't you play your friend's horse that came in last?" "Yes, but I borrowed the money from my friend."

WINING AND DINING.

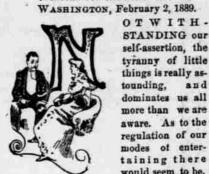
Mrs. Admiral Dahlgren Talks of the Modes of Entertaining.

A FALSE STANDARD ESTABLISHED.

Money Taking the Place of Refinement and Intellect.

HOW GUESTS SHOULD BE SELECTED

(WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.)



tyranny of little things is really astounding, and dominates us all more than we are aware. As to the regulation of our modes of entertaining there would seem to be, as in other fashions, a sort of unwritten law by which the most worthy people, who are independent

and in a measure untrammelled in their manner of action, seem to be guided. Social supremacy, by the very nature of its claims, will always be the privilege accorded to the few. And so long as this prestige and the power that goes with it is gained by those who prove themselves preeminent by talent, by culture, by true re-

finement, by moral worth, or by large means used in public benefactions or unceasing private charities, the models thus created are a benefit to the republic, because they direct the social life of the nation into broad and beneficent channels. Thus, every young man and woman may find in these examplars models worthy of their emulation. But if money and the use of money as such are to be allowed to direct, then we shall sink into a hopeless social degra-

To get rich, for the sake of being rich, is a degrading ambition, and if this canker worm eats into the heart of the next generation, we bloom but to decay. We have happily escaped the paralyzing influences of an inherited aristocracy, but if we reach after this ignoble goal we shall fall into the mire of sordid aims and low motives. Already there is a false standard being set Already there is a laise standard being set up as regards the manner of entertainments, and there is not the vigorous protest that there should be against the invasion. I have, for instance, heard of a cultivated and excellent woman who actually went abroad because she either could not or would not indulge in the costly modes of entertaining adopted by some other social leaders of the same city. Now this is, to say the least, a very narrow and perverted view to take of the true province of entertainments.

A BRILLIANT ENTERTAINMENT.

In what does the brilliancy of an enter tainment consist? Assuredly not in the flash of electric or gas light, mingling with the softer rays of waxen candles and modulated illumination, in terrapin and cham-pagne, in immense suits of elaborately deco-rated appointments, or in the sheen of satin and sparkle of diamonds. Does our intellectual civilization call this brilliancy God forbid. These things are mere accessor ies, effects produced by a respectable army of working men and women who have united their labor to produce this effect, and are thankful that by so doing they have gained

absolutely unrefined people.

The making of money is not one of the fine arts, and the people who have the knack of making it most rapidly are apt to come out of the trying ordeal, supposing them to be nature's diamonds—very rude, jagged and uncut. They need a deal of polishing before they know how to shine as brilliants of the first water. While on the other hand, the vast body of our respectable families, who have been satisfied with moderate means, have lived in an atmosphere of true refinement. We have only to collect true refinement. We have only to collect our senses and turn aside from mere glitter as meretricious, and disassociate the idea of money-spending from our social life, to re-gain the old standard.

Now, the first cardinal rule as to the real elegance of an entertainment must be that it is the selection of the guests, the character of the people who assemble, that will go to make it brilliant or the reverse. One may waste a fortune in giving a dinner, as the pagans have done before us, and it will be but a vulgar affair at best, if the guests are not the chief attraction. Happily, it is conversation, and not simply what one eats or drinks, or has to offer or display, that makes a dinner a banquet fit for the gods.

MENTAL CUSTOMS. If the people who have brain and culture will only be steadfast and "fight it out on this line" and combine their forces, and let it be understood that the canons of good taste will not tolerate mere display, then the owners of millions who assume to dictate modes and manners as social leaders, because they are millionaires, will soon be made to understand that after all they have nothing to offer that is specially desirable to nothing to offer that is specially desirable to engraft upon our social customs.

engraft upon our social customs.

There is no point involving finer distinctions than the permitted use of money when we entertain our friends. For instance, occasionally at luncheons or dinners some selected gift is placed at each cover. Is not the taste, however pleasing its expression, somewhat doubtful, of presenting anything purchased, except flowers, to an invited company? I have been told of an enormously

wealthy man in a Western city who sur-prised a large number of invited dinner convives by placing at each cover a \$20 gold piece. It is said that the effect pro-duced upon the puzzled guests was quite sensational and something surd as this naive mistake was, the reasoning that led to this peculiar display was logical. This Crosus had undoubtedly hobnobbed with some other Crosus who had bestowed upon him some fanciful knick-knack out of his Fortunatus purse which was of no manner of use to a practical, money-making mind; while he, in his turn, true to the habit of business, gave his gold outright for what it was worth. Such customs are decidedly Oriental. Happily, the cultured man or woman who entertains has gifts of a rarer, an unpurchasable kind to offer.

It has been truly said that "the dinner is the climax of civilization." This is so true gracious charm of culture know how to dine Ye goodly company who have brains, take the first rank! Give me your dinners with the first rank! Give me your dinners with the nine muses. There are mishaps that tax even a trained host or hostess. Things will get mixed and go wrong at times. Not every one has the genius of Mme. Scarron to make "another anecdote" take the place of the missing roast, or fill up vivaciously the dull pauses of awkward waiters.

THE NECESSITY OF WINE. I have heard of a "nonveau-riche," with

more money than patience, who when a certain dish was a failure sent then and there for a culprit cook and attempted a reprimand, upon which a never-to-be-for gotten scene occurred, in which the cook came off with flying colors. It is said that some of the guests declared themselves

been by any set course.

A good rule as regards the success of a dinner is to restrict it to ten courses. Nine than 12 guests, so that one can have the magnetism of general conversation, is sim-ply delightful—only the guests, the courses and the wines must one and all be carefully

chosen. It is a question of quality and not of quantity in each case. As to wines, one must definitely decide to do one of two things. If we banish wines we must also banish the forced meats and the configures that make digestion impossible without their aid. It would require the stomach of a mule or an would require the stomach of a mule or an ostrich to digest the conglomeration of lobster, pete de foie gras, mushrooms, terrapins, conserves, ices and so on that go to make a menu, without their specific accompanying stimulant. It is a positive risk to life to eat the conventional dinner without these gastronomic aids. Gastronomy is, I believe, a science.

Of course, if we are ready to change all this, and serve good nourishing food, sim-ply prepared by "good, plain cooks," we may escape both headache and nightmare with a concluding cup of coffee. Certainly, there is no objection to making the experi-ment with—the next generation, but we

would advise them to begin young. GENEROUS HOSPITALITY.

As a general thing, the lavish expendi-ture with which some rich people entertain is more apt to detract from than to increase the pleasure of the occasion. In the exercise of a generous hospitality we assemble a certain selected number of congenial people for a common enjoyment. It is pleasant to be credited with good taste, and to succeed in what we undertake, but it is not to be supposed that we invite society in order that they may become painfully aware that our manner of living is grander than theirs. Rest assured that if people go away from your house with an uncomfortable feeling that it is impossible for them to exercise the same kind of hospitality, some

mistake has been made.

The finest possible tact is to make every one feel at home, and both host and hostess should spare no effort in that direction. The hostess should be quietly attired, so that she shall not outshine her guests. For the time being those whom you invite to your house belong to it. You are bound to look after their comfort in every way, and to pro-tect them, if need be, from any slight.

Simply to invite people to come to your house and then permit them to take care of themselves is not American hospitality. With us it should be the privilege of both host and hostess to use their discretion as to introducing second. introducing people, and to assert with dignity the equality of their guest. In a arepublic, when we meet socially, we should meet as equals and make no invidious distinction. We are, of course, at liberty to choose our associates. One can readily decline to visit at certain houses and retrain from inviting certain people, but the moment we do invite a company we must claim for each person so invited the same respect that we claim for ourselves. we claim for ourselves.

Those who expect special recognition must prove their right by the exhibition of exceptional social talent.

MADELINE VINTON DAHLGREN.

A BIG GAME SLAUGHTER

A Farmer Covers His Fence With Coal Tar and Gets Plenty of Animals.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.] A Summerville (W. Va.) dispatch says: Henry Murray, a farmer living in the mountains of Pocahontas county, has been annoyed and damaged by the squirrels, chipmunks, and other four-legged pests which nightly swarmed from the woods and ate his corn. They literally destroyed everything before them until he accidentally struck upon a plan by which he has destroyed almost all of the pests. He one day noticed a chicken which had stepped into a little pool of coal tar. The fowl wandered about a few minan honest livelihood.

If the effect is not glaring and is devoid of a seeming display, then it is to the credit and the good taste of the person who has made the outlay. But for all this, the entertainer and the entertained may be—I do:

| Which had stepped into a little pool of coal tar. The fowl wandered about a few minutes, until its feet became so covered with the leaves and sticks upon which it stepped that it could go no further and fell helpless tertainer and the entertained may be—I do:

| Which had stepped into a little pool of coal tar. The fowl wandered about a few minutes, until its feet became so covered with the leaves and sticks upon which it stepped that it could go no further and fell helpless that it could go no further and fell des suggested by the plight of the chicken. immediately set to work and filled a large kettle with coal tar, and other glutnious sub-

This conglomeration he spread thickly upon the top rails of the fence which stretched around his corn field and into the woods. Before daybreak the next morning Murray, accompanied by his boys and half a dozen dogs, went into the corn field. and, raising a yell, started the affrighted animals by the dozen from their work of destruction. In an instant a long line of gray, destruction. In an instant a long line of gray, brown, and striped animals were jumping and sourrying along the top of the fence toward the woods. Before they reached the woods many of them had so covered their feet and sides with the gummy stuff that they either stuck fast or fell to the ground, when they were quickly dispatched. In scene was an animated one of rolling, tumb ling squirrels, coons, and opossums, with feet, sides, and back covered with the ad-hering leaves, sticks, etc., with which the ground was covered. Sixty-seven gray squirrels, 34 chipmunks, 3 opossums, and 7

squirreis, 34 chipmunks, 3 opossums, and 7 unlucky coons fell victims of Murray's "tar-heel" mixture.

A few others succeeded in getting into the trees, but they could not get out of sight of the hunters, their feet either sticking to the branches or failing to hold at all on account of the bunches of leaves adhering to them. In a very short time Murray literally depopulated the side of the mountain of the pests. It was but a short time before of the pests. It was but a short time before the story got out, and now that entire coun-try is using Murray's recipe for the destruc-tion of the pests which destroyed thousands of dollars' worth of corn and other cereals every year.

FUNERAL EXPENSES

What it Cost an Old Colonial Citizen of Connecticut to Die. New York Tribune.]

At the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Connecticut Constitution the other evening, at Hartford, one of the speakers read the items of the funeral expenses of an old colonial citizen who died by drowning. Here they are:

By a qrt. of lyqr. to those that brought him home him home.

By 2 qrts, of wine and gall, of sydr, to ye jury of inquest.

By 8 galls, and 3 qrts, wine for the fune-£04.14.04

Wasted Efforts.

Charitable Visitor (about to leave the hospital)-I never saw such a cold-hearted person as that patient near the window. I read one of Heber Newton's sermons to him fully ten minutes, and he didn't show the Attendant-I'm sure he didn't intend to hurt your feelings, mum; he's deaf as a

An Interesting Compliment ebraska State Journal.)

Barber (auxious to please)-I like have you, sir. Your skin reminds me of that of Sir John Ehlquist, tae English bar-Flattered patron-Did you ever shave

Ready for Them.

"Yes, after death."

Rural Dame-Mercy on us! There come ome tramps. Bring me my husband's gun, Servant (glancing out of the window)-Those are not tramps; they are White

or ten courses and six wines, and not more A Collection of Eniomatical Nuts for

He makes me warm, if cold am I; If I labor, then he assists; If it is damp he makes it dry— He drives away the sullen mists.

In my garden he does his best, For there it is his work is grand! For this alone I cannot rest Until I praise his gen'rous hand.

He grows the flowers and the fruit, He paints the colors of the rose— But alas! my friend is mute; He silent comes and silent goes!

463-ANAGRAM. "UP HERE'S THE SOFT CHIMES:" ye
Do not my grammar criticise,
For this rude rendering conveys
The thought hid in the parent phrase
A pretty thought, and yet, forsooth,
Not in accordance with the truth.
Poets tell of all, and Holy Writ
Is their authority for it;
And yet I say, in contradiction,
"Tis only a poetle fiction;
For it would be a thing absurd,
To say such tones were ever heard
To issue from the world afar;
Indeed, there is no vocal star,
Sare of the kind, not quite divine,
That sing upon the stage and shine.
NELSO:

464-THE CARPENTER'S PREDICAMENT.

"I tell you it can't be done," answered the "Well, but if I can do it may I have the bon-

465-CHARADE.

466-HOW TO BE FAMOUS. To those who are discontent,

467-STAR.

468-THE POET'S DREAM. (Metagram.) A cross his busy brain what fancies stole! Across his busy brain what fancies stole! He thought, as on the mossy mound he slept, That on his privacy celestials crept, Who each in turn took off his sleepy head,

First Queen Titania of the golden rod Produced a nymph obedient to her nod; Then gorgeous Phoebus illumines all the scene, And conjures from the bard a beam of light

As Father Time was-frisky as an elf-

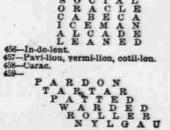
About to show a portion of himself. In tottered Age, apparently incessed. Replaced the rightful head and thus co

469-NUMERICAL. Can you add a triffing sum, Say a thousand, ten and one?
You will get confused, I fear,
And will have a tangle here.
Now from nine subtract the half,
Leave a unit—never laugh!

FEBRUARY'S PRIZE. A splendid prize awaits the boy or girl whose list of answers for February is best. The prize is a BRACKET SAW OUTFIT, with a fine assortment of saws, instruction book, patterns, etc.

The solutions must be forwarded weekly, and due credit will be given each competitor at the

ANSWERS. 459-One trail-Relation-H in hed-Behind. One heart-Another. Ten spiders-Presidents. VE in squash-Vanquishes. Tuber in S-Tribunes. Trees in U-Retinues. 454-A bolster.



A young woman whose name was L E E (Elise) Had contracted a curious D D E E (disease),— There was naught could her hunger A P P (ap-

Method in Her Indecision

thing for me, Miss Macer?" he asked. "I can't tell you, my dear Mr. Noodle." she murmured with a labored biush. "It is so sudden I must have time to consider. But I think I will know my own mind bet-

A Singular Form of Monomania

vestly more amused than they could have THE FIRESIDE SPHINX

Home Cracking.

Address communications for this department to E. R. CHADBOURN, Lewiston, Maine.

462-A HELPFUL FRIEND. On pleasant days I have a friend,
Who comes to see me at my house;
The things he does are without end,
Though he is as quiet as a mouse.

When I am sick he makes me well; If I am dull he makes me bright. When he is there, there is no spell Of darkness, for 'tis ever night!

"UP HERE'S THE SOFT CHIMES:" YO WISE.

"What's the matter, father?" asked the bright young daughter of a carpenter, as she saw her father with a puzzled look on his face, "Matter enough," answered the carpenter. "I have lost my foot-rule, and need to measure four inches."

"Haven't you any measure of any kind?"
"No, at least I have only these two sticks," answered the father; "one is just a yard long and the other is exactly 23 inches long. But of course they won't help me any."

The daughter thought a moment, and then said slyly: "Will you let me have a new bonnet if I measure the four inches with those two sticks?"

net?"
"It's safe enough to promise that."
"Then you do promise it?"
"All right."
In a few minutes the girl had accurately measured off the required length of four inches. How did she do it?

J. H. FEZANDIE.

"I feel so one to-day," said Sue,
"I really do not wish to two;
So my one twos I'll put away,
My two-ining I'll not do to-day."
One-twos are made of two, indeed.
And oft they move about with speed:
The name of whole would seem to show
That two is one but 'its not so;
Sue might be one, and so might we,
But two, we know, could never be.
NELSOMAN.

To those who are discontent,
With their present place in society.
I beg to here present,
A receipt for notoriety:
Get you in the midst of a tree
As straight as the village steeple,
And take my word you'll be,
Admired by all the people.
W. WILSON.

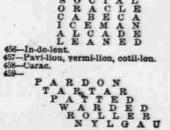
1. A letter. 2. East Indies (abbs). 2. Attached to no visible projecting support. 4. A titunic from ore. 5. Angry. 6. A kind of thrush. 7. Having energy. 8. Within, reversed, 9. A letter.

And, smiling, put another on instead— Queer scenes creating, silly or sublime, Like transformations in a pantomime.

And conjures from the bard a beam of light serene;
Next Neptune, dripping from the watery main, Displayed a portion of his deep domain;
And Ceres, Ruth like, 'mid-the yellow grain, The fragrant produce of the grassy plain;
Then Flora came—her gridle roses spanned—To show a season sacred to her band.

"Behold what I was once in boyhood blythe, Ere this grim Autocrat with glass and seythe My visage wrinkled with his fingers doft, My body palsied with his touch, and left My brown locks whitened with his ley breath Ripe for the sickle of the reaper Death."

(Do gods like maidens dread the touch of age?) The troupe dissolved in mist across the plain, And, waking, "Richard is himself again."



460-Pate, pat.

The Doctor looked Y Y (wise),
And, blinking his I I (eyes),
Said 'twould be no U U (use)
Till she changed her V U U (views)
To prescribe anything but green P P (peas).

New York Sun. 1 "Do you think you could ever care any

ter after we have been to the theater a few more times."

A Singular Form of Monomania.

There is a class of people, rational enough in other respects, who are certainly monomaniacin dosing themselves. They are constantly trying experiments upon their stomachs, their bowels, their livers and their kidneys with trashy nostrums. When these organs are really out of order, if they would only us Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, they would, if no hopelessly instane, perceive its superiority.